

§ 537.408 Setoffs prohibited.

A setoff against blocked property (including a blocked account), whether by a U.S. bank or other U.S. person, is a prohibited transfer under § 537.201 if effected after the effective date.

§ 537.409 Activities under pre-May 21, 1997 agreements.

Section 537.210(c) exempts from all prohibitions contained in this part, except those contained in § 537.203, activities undertaken by a U.S. person pursuant to an agreement entered into prior to May 21, 1997, between a U.S. person and the Government of Burma or a nongovernmental entity in Burma. A U.S. person who is a party to a pre-May 21, 1997 agreement falling outside the scope of § 537.203 may enter into subsequent agreements with foreign persons where such agreements are pursuant to, or in exercise of rights under, the pre-May 21, 1997 agreement and are specifically contemplated by the pre-May 21, 1997 agreement. The exercise of rights under a pre-May 21, 1997 agreement falling outside the scope of § 537.203 may include the exercise of options to extend the contract, depending on such factors as the degree of specificity with which the option to extend is described in the pre-May 21, 1997 agreement, and the degree to which the party wishing to renew can enforce its decision to exercise the option.

§ 537.410 Contracts and subcontracts regarding economic development of resources in Burma.

Section 537.204 prohibits new investment in Burma by U.S. persons. Section 537.311 defines the term *new investment* to include certain contracts providing for the general supervision and guarantee of another person's performance of a contract that includes the economic development of resources located in Burma. With respect to entry into such contracts, only the following will be considered new investment in Burma:

(a) Entry into contracts for supervision and guarantee at the highest level of project management, such as entry into a contract with a development project's sponsor or owner to become a prime contractor or general manager for a development project;

(b) Entry into subcontracts where the functional scope of the subcontractor's obligations is substantially similar to that of a prime contractor's or general manager's obligations for a development project; or

(c) Entry into a contract or subcontract where the consideration includes a share of ownership in, or participation in the royalties, earnings or profits of, the economic development of resources located in Burma.

§ 537.411 Purchase of shares in economic development projects in Burma.

The purchase, directly or indirectly, from the Government of Burma or a nongovernmental entity in Burma of shares of ownership, including an equity interest, in the economic development of resources located in Burma is prohibited unless the purchase is pursuant to an agreement entered into prior to May 21, 1997.

§ 537.412 Investments in entities involved in economic development projects in Burma.

(a) The purchase of shares in a third-country company that is engaged in the economic development of resources located in Burma is prohibited by § 537.204 where the company's profits are predominantly derived from the company's economic development of resources located in Burma.

(b) If a U.S. person holds shares in an entity which subsequently engages predominantly in the economic development of resources located in Burma or subsequently derives its income exclusively or predominantly from such economic development, the U.S. person is not required to relinquish its shares, but may not purchase additional shares. Divestiture of the shares in such an entity to a foreign person—otherwise constituting the facilitation of that foreign person's investment in Burma—is authorized under general license pursuant to § 537.524.

§ 537.413 Sale of interest in economic development projects in Burma.

The sale to a foreign person of a U.S. person's equity or income interest in a

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development project in Burma constitutes facilitation of that foreign person's investment in Burma, unless pursuant to a pre-May 21, 1997 agreement. Such a sale, however, is authorized by general license under § 537.524.

Subpart E—Licenses, Authorizations and Statements of Licensing Policy

§ 537.501 General and specific licensing procedures.

For provisions relating to licensing procedures, see part 501, subpart D, of this chapter. Licensing actions taken pursuant to part 501 of this chapter with respect to the prohibitions contained in this part are considered actions taken pursuant to this part.

§ 537.502 Effect of license or authorization.

(a) No license or other authorization contained in this part, or otherwise issued by or under the direction of the Director of the Office of Foreign Assets Control, authorizes or validates any transaction effected prior to the issuance of the license, unless specifically provided in such license or authorization.

(b) No regulation, ruling, instruction, or license authorizes any transaction prohibited under this part unless the regulation, ruling, instruction or license is issued by the Office of Foreign Assets Control and specifically refers to this part. No regulation, ruling, instruction, or license referring to this part shall be deemed to authorize any transaction prohibited by any provision of this chapter unless the regulation, ruling, instruction, or license specifically refers to such provision.

(c) Any regulation, ruling, instruction, or license authorizing any transaction otherwise prohibited by this part has the effect of removing a prohibition or prohibitions contained in this part from the transaction, but only to the extent specifically stated by its terms. Unless the regulation, ruling, instruction, or license otherwise specifies, such an authorization does not create any right, duty, obligation, claim, or interest in, or with respect to, any property which would not oth-

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erwise exist under ordinary principles of law.

§ 537.503 Exclusion from licenses.

The Director of the Office of Foreign Assets Control reserves the right to exclude any person, property, or transaction from the operation of any license or from the privileges conferred by any license. The Director of the Office of Foreign Assets Control also reserves the right to restrict the applicability of any license to particular persons, property, transactions, or classes thereof. Such actions are binding upon all persons receiving actual or constructive notice of the exclusions or restrictions.

§ 537.504 Payments and transfers to blocked accounts in U.S. financial institutions.

Any payment of funds or transfer of credit in which a person whose property or interests in property are blocked pursuant to § 537.201(a) has any interest, that comes within the possession or control of a U.S. financial institution, must be blocked in an account on the books of that financial institution. A transfer of funds or credit by a U.S. financial institution between blocked accounts in its branches or offices is authorized, provided that no transfer is made from an account within the United States to an account held outside the United States, and further provided that a transfer from a blocked account may only be made to another blocked account held in the same name.

NOTE TO § 537.504: Please refer to § 501.603 of this chapter for mandatory reporting requirements regarding financial transfers. See also § 537.208 concerning the obligation to hold blocked funds in interest-bearing accounts.

§ 537.505 Entries in certain accounts for normal service charges authorized.

(a) A U.S. financial institution is authorized to debit any blocked account held at that financial institution in payment or reimbursement for normal service charges owed it by the owner of that blocked account.

(b) As used in this section, the term *normal service charge* shall include